

THE NEW PLAYS

Florence Reed and Helen Ware
Score in "A Celebrated Case."

BY CHARLES DARTON.

THE HOPE of the audience, Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, will undoubtedly be only too ready to bow to the worthy, not to say charming, ladies in "A Celebrated Case," which last night, after many years, at the Empire Theatre.

You may have seen only to certain calls? That, too, why, even David Helman came out and "did the honors" for Charles Frohman. If both had appeared, hand-in-hand as it were, they would undoubtedly have put the so-called all-star cast quite at the shade. But the modesty that Mr. Frohman has made a professional asset, evidently kept him from showing himself. Mr. Skinner offered a few heart-felt words at the end of the performance, and then there were cries for "Nat," who told us how grateful he was his survival of an accident in California had enabled him to join in this revival. There's nothing like personality—and there is a word you have not heard.

Now for the ladies. "Nat" names aside, the honors of the night were fairly won by Florence Reed and Helen Ware. As the soldier's wife who is murdered by a camp follower for the dead Count's treasure, her honest husband brings home from the battle field. Miss Ware was realistically effective in her death agonies. To be sure, there's nothing an actress with emotional tendencies does quite so much as to die terribly. But Miss Ware was something more than violent—she was real. The prologue, of course, gave her a decided advantage, since it happens to be the most dramatic part of the old play by Ed. Kneery and Cornon. That's where it differs from "The Two Orphans."

But to continue the story of the two actresses who scored in this revival, Miss Reed, for her part, came out beautifully as Valentine. First of all, she looked young and pretty and by playing the role simply she saved it from seeming hopelessly artificial. Her sincerity won her quick recognition. Frederick de Belleville was more at home as the Duke d'Aubert than as the regimental commander.

As the soldier falsely accused of killing his wife, Mr. Skinner strutted heavily through the prologue, with even more "manner" than a Frenchman might muster, but his life as a soldier have served to weaken his acting. Much depends on the paths of Renaud and Adrienne, the daughter who innocently condemns him as a child, but here both Mr. Skinner, in his use of a monotonous falsetto, and Ann Murdoch, by noisily giving vent to her emotions one moment and gasping convulsively the next, fell far short of touching the heart.

No rule, as you may know, can govern Mr. Goodwin. He played the Irish Sergeant O'Rourke in his own way, with a wink of the eye and a pellicking manner that gained its reward in laughter. For an Irishman, however, it must be said he was unparagonably slow of speech at times. Incidentally, both he and Mr. Skinner suggested that the army was not on short rations. Eliza Proctor O'Brien not only put her unforgiving grasp on the part of the worthy dame who realized that a girl may not learn everything at school, but she threw a line to Eugene O'Brien, who was a bit uncertain as Adrienne's lover. The programme gave no clue to the actor who played the murderous camp follower in the prologue, but as the false Count we saw we had guessed right the very first time—Robert Warwick. Ah-ha! Handsome, sinister and impressive, Mr. Warwick carried off his villainous role very well until the very end, when he walked off with such an extravagant stride that a good-natured burst of laughter cheered him on his way to the waiting soldiers.

Speaking of soldiers, it may be fair to assume that Mr. Frohman and Mr. Helman saw the elements of a war play in "A Celebrated Case," and accordingly considered it of timely interest. The prologue, at least, leads to this conclusion. The rest is like an old French domestic tapestry. First and last, it offers opportunities to a "star cast"—and so we come by degrees to realize the joys of a sort of theatrical old-home week.

DESPITE VETO THREAT, SENATE VOTES FOR ONE BUREAU OF BUILDINGS

ALBANY, April 8.—Despite the announcement of Senator Mills that if the bill were passed Mayor Mitchell would veto it, the Senate by a vote of 35 to 3 has put through the bill transferring to a new Department of Buildings all the powers of the Tenement House, Fire, Health and Labor Departments concerning the construction of buildings. Only two New York City legislators voted against the measure. They were Democratic Leader Wagner and Ogden Mills, Republican.

In passing this bill, protested Mills, "you are weakening the Tenement House Law, the Health Law and the Labor Law. You are tearing apart the City of New York. Not an up-State member would stand for it if it touched his locality. This is a bad bill. I am assured the Mayor will veto the bill if it comes to him." "I do not believe the Mayor will veto it," retorted Republican Leader Brown. "I don't believe he has given any such assurance. There is a constitutional channel through which he may communicate with this body." The Senate also passed the bill legislating out of office the present Corporation at the expiration of their terms in 1915 and providing for the appointment by the Mayor of medical examiners. By keeping the Corporation in office until 1915 the Republicans and Tammany legislators figure that the appointment of medical officers will be made by a new mayor.

MAN DEAD IN HOTEL MAY HAVE BEEN PRIEST

A well-dressed middle-aged man arrived at the Chelsea Hotel, No. 22 West Twenty-third Street, on Tuesday afternoon. He registered at James A. Garfield of Pittsburgh. This morning a maid found him dead upon the floor of his room, apparently a victim of heart failure, and a search of his baggage for possession of identity revealed the fact that he is probably a priest, although about 35 years of age.

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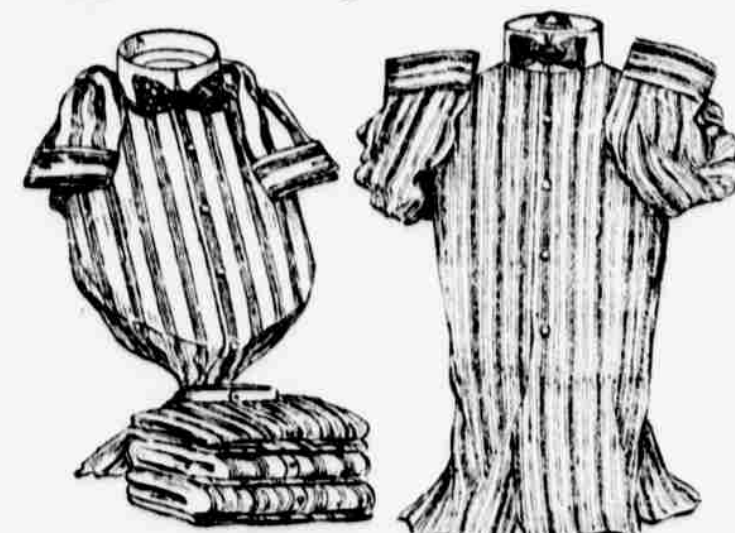
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Quick Clearance of Our Jewelry Stock. Only one piece of a kind of many of the choice pieces, so an early selection is advised.

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Set with various colored stones, some Oriental effects.
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Macy's Former Prices \$1.24 to \$9.89

Sterling Silver Novelties
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Vanity Cases, plain or hand engraved.
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Vanity Cases, Card Cases, Pencils, Cigarette Cases, Powder Pencils and Party Boxes.
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Macy's Former Prices 49c to \$28.75

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Macy's Former Prices 99c to \$34.75

Jaunty Spring Suits for Misses, Special, \$24.74

An extremely smart model, in navy blue serge and shepherd check worsted; the blouse coat, belted and strapped in military fashion, has flaring collar and cuffs of striped more in black and white and a soft black silk tie. The box pleated skirt, finished with a belt—is very wide at foot. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years.

Serge Suits, Blouse Model, \$22.74

In navy blue—finely tailored Suits with flaring belted coat—button trimmed and peau de cygne lined. The sharply pointed collar of pique is adjustable. The Skirt—shirred at back, has a stitched belt, button trimmed, and is cut on the fashionable lines. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years.

Serge Suits, Blouse Model, \$17.74

In black and navy blue,—practical and pretty Suits, with blouse coat—box pleated at back, belted and button trimmed. A black-and-white striped silk collar adds a smart touch of style. The flaring skirt finished with belt—has a full shirred back. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years.

Brushed Wool & Knitted Sweaters—Special, \$4.74

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Silk Poplin Coats, \$7.49

In king's blue, navy, black and sand. Coats of lustrous silk poplin—in the charming model (illustrated at the left) with collar and cuffs in contrasting color. Sizes 4 to 10 years.

Messaline Coats, \$12.74

A very effective model, as illustrated at the right, in Belgian blue, green, navy and sand color; lingette collar and cuffs. Lined throughout. 10 to 16 years.

Chambray Dresses, Smocked Model, \$2.59

In green, tan, pink and blue Chambray of excellent quality; long waisted model; box pleated fronts; pique collar and cuffs. Sizes 4 to 12 years.

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